

David Nowakowski  
Sunfox Campground  
15 Kenyon Rd  
Lisbon CT 06351

February 19, 2022

Dear Chairman Cohen, Chairman Gresko and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee,

I am writing in support of House Bill No. 5145 - AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PORTABLE WASTEWATER CONTAINERS."

For many years, Connecticut campgrounds operated under the assumption that the individual camper use of prefabricated, portable wastewater containers (commonly known as "Blue Boys") to transport their RV waste within the campground from campsite to dumping station was a fully permitted use. These devices (shown below) are used at campgrounds in other states, sold by RV dealers and camping supply stores in Connecticut and nationwide, and are still allowed to be used at state-run campgrounds in Connecticut. When Connecticut campgrounds were informed that these devices would no longer be permitted, it was not that the law had changed, but rather an interpretation that since these devices were not specifically permitted as an accepted method of transporting waste, they were therefore not legal.

The current inability of individual campers to utilize these devices at privately owned campgrounds in Connecticut places our businesses at a competitive disadvantage with not only out-of-state campgrounds in every other state, but also in terms of campgrounds run by the State of Connecticut. Any individual camper who is willing to use this device is doing so in a careful manner, as they would certainly not want to create any spillage on their own campsite. A resumption of this previously accepted use would reduce the number of "pump-outs" that campgrounds currently provide to their campers, a fee based service that many campers feel is some form of a racket where CT campgrounds are forcing them to utilize this feature. Despite assuring them that there are many things I would rather

being doing than pumping out their RV, they fail to see how it is OK in other states and in CT state parks, but not here.

It appears that the current legislation rightly intends to prohibit the unsafe or unsanitary transport of waste. However, these devices are quite simple and proper for their intended use. It may be beneficial to include language that prevents the use of these devices on public roads, as the intent of these "Blue Boys" is not to be towed down the highway, but rather the short trip from campsite to dump station, fully within the confines of each campground.

Image of a "Blue Boy"



The summary provided by CCOA does an excellent job of highlighting the reasons that the use of these devices should be permitted at family campgrounds in Connecticut.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

David Nowakowski, owner operator of Sunfox Campground